

## I. AMENDMENTS

### AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Cancel claims 3, 4, 7-12, and 18-44 without prejudice to renewal.

Please enter the amendments to claims 1, 5, 6, and 14-17, as shown below.

Please enter new claims 45-50, as shown below.

1. (Currently amended) A method of treating a patient suffering from idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of IFN- $\gamma$ , where the patient has a forced vital capacity (FVC) that is at least about 55% of the predicted normal value and/or has a carbon monoxide diffusing capacity (DL<sub>CO</sub>) that is at least about 30% ~~[[35%]]~~ of the predicted normal value.

2. (Original) A method of increasing the probability of survival of a patient suffering from idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis (IPF), comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of IFN- $\gamma$ , where the patient has a forced vital capacity (FVC) that is at least about 55% of the predicted normal value and/or has a carbon monoxide diffusing capacity (DL<sub>CO</sub>) that is at least about 35% of the predicted normal value.

3.-4. (Canceled)

5. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the patient has a DL<sub>CO</sub> that is at least 35% ~~A method of treating a patient suffering from idiopathic pulmonary fibrosis, comprising administering to the patient an effective amount of IFN- $\gamma$ , where the patient has a forced vital capacity (FVC) that is at least about 55% of the predicted normal value and/or has a carbon monoxide diffusing capacity (DL<sub>CO</sub>) that is at least about 30% of the predicted normal value.~~

6. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-5~~, wherein IFN- $\gamma$  is administered to the patient for a period ~~[[of]]~~ selected from about 48 weeks, about 60 weeks, about one year, about 70 weeks, about 93 weeks, about 2 years, and the remainder of the patient's life.

7.-12, (Canceled)

13. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-5~~, wherein the method further comprises administering a corticosteroid to the individual.

14. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-5~~, wherein IFN- $\gamma$  is administered in a dose of from about 1.48  $\mu\text{g/kg}$  body weight to about 4.4  $\mu\text{g/kg}$  body weight ~~about 80  $\mu\text{g/m}^2$  to about 90  $\mu\text{g/m}^2$~~ .

15. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-5~~, wherein IFN- $\gamma$  is administered in a dose of about 200  $\mu\text{g}$ .

16. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-5~~, wherein IFN- $\gamma$  is administered three times weekly.

17. (Currently amended) The method of claim 1 ~~any one of claims 1-5~~, wherein IFN- $\gamma$  is administered by subcutaneous administration.

18.-44. (Canceled)

45. (New) The method of claim 2, wherein IFN- $\gamma$  is administered to the patient for a period selected from about 48 weeks, about 60 weeks, about one year, about 70 weeks, about 93 weeks, about 2 years, and the remainder of the patient's life.

46. (New) The method of claim 2, wherein the method further comprises administering a corticosteroid to the individual.

47. (New) The method of claim 2, wherein IFN- $\gamma$  is administered in a dose of from about 1.48  $\mu\text{g/kg}$  body weight to about 4.4  $\mu\text{g/kg}$  body weight.

48. (New) The method of claim 2, wherein IFN- $\gamma$  is administered in a dose of about 200  $\mu\text{g}$ .

49. (New) The method of claim 2, wherein IFN- $\gamma$  is administered three times weekly.

50. (New) The method of claim 2, wherein IFN- $\gamma$  is administered by subcutaneous administration.